

**Alpine City
Urban Deer Control Committee**

**Minutes from Committee Meeting
April 28, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Alpine City Offices**

1. Attendance: Brian Higbee, Dan Ruesch, Melissa Holiday, Kent Partna, Late arrival and early exit: Craig Rosvall Excused absence: Rich Nelson and Mayor Sheldon Wimmer.
2. Agenda and Minutes from the April 14, 2016 meeting were approved with corrections. The corrected minutes are attached. March 28 meeting minutes were still not available for review.
3. Each committee member took 5-10 minutes to comment on the preliminary deer survey draft that was circulated via email.
4. The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the preliminary deer survey draft as follows:
 - a. Committee discussed including name and contact information and decided not to require it.
 - b. Committee discussed the preamble and each question, adjusting wording and or eliminating the question.
 - c. Committee members voted on the inclusion of each question and the final wording.
 - d. A copy of the final survey draft is attached.
 - e. Because the committee didn't finalize the preamble wording at the meeting, a second draft version is attached.
 - f. Determined next steps:
 - i. Finalize preamble wording.
 - ii. Discuss getting the survey approved by city council.
 - iii. Determine survey logistics: who distributes, collects, tallies, prints, etc.
5. The committee agreed to meet on Thursday, May 5, at 5:00 pm in the conference room.
6. Adjournment at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Melissa Holiday

Alpine City Urban Deer Control Committee

Corrected Minutes from Committee Meeting on April 14, 2016, 5:00 pm, Alpine City Offices

1. Attendance: Brian Higbee, Dan Ruesch, Melissa Holiday, Kent Partna, Craig Rosvall, Mayor Sheldon Wimmer. Excused absence: Rich Nelson.
2. Minutes from the March 31, 2016 meeting were not available for approval. Will review at April 28 meeting.
3. Report from Dan Ruesch on deer population study:
 - a. Dan talked with Channing Howard about relocation program and deer census.
 - b. Discussed timing and design: Channing said probably early to mid summer best time for census. Census design: divide the city into sections and at same time on a particular day, volunteers walk their quadrant and count deer. Could contact UVU and BYU wildlife biology departments for volunteers along with Alpine residents.
 - c. Relocation experience so far: about 50% survival rate of translocated deer 1st year
 - d. Natural survival: about 15% die naturally each year but 85% survive in the wild.
 - e. Channing is available to present to us at a meeting.
 - f. Steve Gray, a biologist, in discussion with Brian Higbee said that Alpine is in a fairly unique position as it is located at the confluence of two mountain ranges giving it the characteristics of a mountain town.
 - g. A habitat restoration biologist told Brian that there are Federal habitat improvement programs available that could help us restore deer foraging plants for the benches.
 - h. Discussed cost of eradication programs.
4. Report from Kent Partna on safety issues and property damage:
 - a. Kent presented police reports of deer incidences obtained from the Alpine/Highland police department for 2015 & 2016.
 - b. Committee compared reports to dead deer retrieval reports.
5. Report from Brian Higbee on control options and cost, etc:
 - a. Brian met with 2 DWR professionals: Channing Howard and Steve Gray.
 - b. Looked at possible corridors for migration, increasing forage plants.
 - c. Discussed mitigation through education program, cost of eradication programs, and what is done with meat if a city uses the lethal method of eradication.
 - d. Brian described his meeting with habitat biologist, Robby Edgel, and toured edges of the city to view water shed, forage for deer, etc. Discussed how habitat could be improved. Mr. Edgel indicated that he would have a proposed habitat development plan ready by June 1.
6. Report from Melissa Holiday on the development of community education:

- a. Contacted a review of local cities websites and found only Bountiful to have any mention deer control measures and suggestions of how to live with deer.
- b. Discussed opportunities for community outreach: city website, newsletter contribution-wildlife corner, activity at Alpine Days.

7. Discussion of Community Survey.

- a. Reviewed results from Mayor Watkins' fall survey: 800 respondents with 50% in favor of eradication efforts, 29% against eradication efforts, and 21% undecided.
- b. Craig Rosvall presented that he had spoken with Matt Thompson at Dan Jones Survey who indicated a survey return of +/- 3.3% (800 returned surveys) was a good return.
- c. Committee determined that the previous survey was not comprehensive enough to use as the justification for an eradication program.
- d. Discussed Kent Partna's previously submitted survey idea.
- e. Determined next steps:
 - i. Each committee member will submit to Melissa Holiday by Wednesday, April 20, a survey with a preamble acquainting city residents with the purpose of the survey and 10 or less survey questions.
 - ii. Taking those submitted surveys, Melissa will compile the questions into a single survey for submission to the committee members before the next committee meeting on April 28 so members can come prepared to discuss and vote on a final survey.
 - iii. Survey logistics and committee assignments will be determined at the next meeting.

8. Adjournment at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Melissa Holiday



CORRECTED

URBAN DEER CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

NOTICE is hereby given that the Urban Deer Control Committee will hold a meeting Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 5:00 pm in the Conference Room at Alpine City Hall, 20 North Main in Alpine Utah.

I. Call Meeting to Order

A. Roll Call

II. Discussion/Action Items

A. Approve minutes of Deer Committee Meeting held March 31, 2016.

B. Presentation/discussion led by Dan Ruesch on City Council Item #1: Figure out how to identify the extent and count of deer population

C. Presentation/discussion led by Kent Partna on City Council Items #2 & #3: Identify and enumerate public safety issues and private property damage

D. Presentation/discussion led by Brian Higbee on City Council Items #5 & 6: Determine the options and cost to implement each option, review what other cities have done, the results of their efforts, and identify best practices for dealing with urban deer

E. Presentation/discussion led by Melissa Holiday on City Council Item #7: Develop a concept for an urban deer population/wildlife management website that teaches best practices for dealing with the urban deer population

F. Discussion of resident survey.

III. Other Business

Adjourn

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. If you need a special accommodation to participate, please call the City Recorder's Office at (801) 756-6241. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING. The undersigned duly appointed recorder does hereby certify that the above agenda notice was on the bulletin board located inside City Hall at 20 North Main and sent by e-mail to The Daily Herald located in Provo, UT, a local newspaper circulated in Alpine, UT. This agenda is also available on our web site at www.alpinecity.org and on the Utah Public Meeting Notices website at www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html